

Attorney Ref. 18155.0006

REMARKSNewly Added Claims

The Applicant submitted a Response to Election/Restriction Requirement on November 20, 2002, which attempted to add claims 17-20. During a December 2, 2002 telephone conversation, Examiner Kreck stated the added claims must be renumbered and resubmitted, since the application was originally filed with claims 1-40. The Applicant submits this Supplemental Response to Election/Restriction Requirement to add the renumbered claims.

Election

The Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, the invention of Group I, claims 1-9, for prosecution in this application. The Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications to protect the invention of Group II.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the election/restriction requirement. The Examiner has failed to establish that there is a patentable difference between the designated claims. See, for example, MPEP § 808.02. Furthermore, it would appear that a careful examination of either claim group would require a search in both subclasses 10 and 31 of class 299. Finally, the reasons proffered by the Examiner at the bottom of page 2 of the Action are mooted in view of the new claims 17-20 added above. The Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination on the merits of all the claims.

Fees

No fee is believed due for this submission. No fee is required for the added claims because an equal number of pending claims has been canceled. Should any fees be required, the

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Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 19-5127 (order no. 18155.0006).

Respectfully Submitted,



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